

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

This is in response to the Office Action dated March 13, 2003. After entry of this Amendment, claims 1-14 remain pending in the application. Claim 1 has been amended. Reconsideration is respectfully requested.

The drawings stand objected to under 37 C.F.R. §1.83(a) because the Examiner states that the drawings fail to physically show "an annular projection 22" as described in the specification. The drawing has been amended to include additional item 22 leader lines to more clearly point out the annular projection 22. Reconsideration of the Examiner's objection to the drawings is respectfully requested.

The Examiner objected to claims 5-14 as being improper because of the multiple dependent claims, however the Examiner had failed to consider the Preliminary Amendment filed with the application on February 6, 2002. After reviewing the file during a telephone conference, the Examiner told Applicants' attorney to ignore this objection.

Claim 1 stands objected to because of several informalities. The phrase "which can be" does not clearly point out which subject is referred to and the "spring force" is missing an article. Claim 1 has been amended to correct these informalities. Reconsideration is respectfully requested.

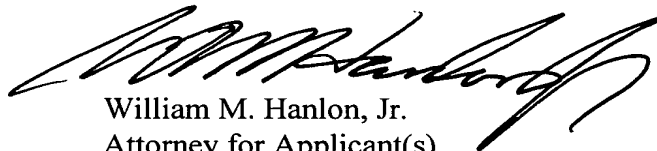
The Examiner stated that this application is in condition for allowance except for the formal matters stated above, further favorable action upon receiving this Amendment is requested.

It is respectfully submitted that this Amendment overcomes all of the Examiner's objections and rejections to the application as originally filed. It is further submitted that this Amendment has antecedent basis in the application as originally filed, including the specification, claims and drawings, and that this Amendment does not add any new subject matter to the application. Reconsideration of the application as amended is requested. It is respectfully submitted that this Amendment places the application in suitable condition for allowance; notice of which is requested.

If the Examiner feels that prosecution of the present application can be expedited by way of further communication, the Examiner is invited to contact the Applicant's attorney at the telephone number listed below.

Respectfully submitted,

YOUNG, BASILE, HANLON, MacFARLANE,  
WOOD & HELMHOLDT, P.C.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'W. M. Hanlon, Jr.', is positioned above the printed name and contact information.

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WMH/MDF/jas